IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Hideo AKIMOTO, et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group:

Filed: Concurrently

Examiner:

FOR: FOAMED ARTICLE OF THERMOPLASTIC RESIN COMPOSITION AND

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING IT

Date: November 19, 2001

The Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

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Preliminary to examination, please amend the herewith filed application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 3-11/in their entirety and without prejudice.

Please enter the following new claims:

 Δ_{12} . (New) The process of claim 1, wherein the recession of the movable mold element subsequent to the secondary injection